

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00694 120043Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /050 W
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R 111831Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4328
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARAMARIBO 694

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB PROP NS UR
SUBJ: MOSCOW MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS: HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND
INFLUENCE PEOPLE

REF: PARAMARIBO 632

1. CONTRARY TO INITIAL REPORTS THAT FRED DERBY, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONALISTIC REPUBLIC PARTY (PNR)-ALIGNED C-47 LABOR FEDERATION, HAD BEEN UNABLE TO TRAVEL TO MOSCOW TO REPRESENT SURINAM'S LABOR MOVEMENT (ALONG WITH MOEDERBOND TREASURER JHAWNIE), AT THE MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS, IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT HE DID GO BUT DID NOT ENJOY HIS RETURN. DERBY APPARENTLY FOUND THE EXPERIENCE SO DISTURBING THAT HE IS QUOTED BY A LOCAL NEWS AGENCY AS SAYING, "IN THE FUTURE, THE SURIMAMESE LABOR MOVEMENT WILL THINK TWICE BEFORE SENDING A DELEGATION TO RUSSIA."

2. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS ACCOUNT BASED ON AN INTERVIEW WITH DERBY, HERE IS WHAT HAPPENED. DERBY WANTED TO RETURN TO SURINAM BEFORE THE DATE (MAY 16) STIPULATED BY THE SOVIETS IN ORDER TO ATTEND TO IMPORTANT BUSINESS HERE.

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HOWEVER, SAID DERBY, THE SOVIETS INSISTED THAT HE STAY UNTIL THE 16TH AND THEN TAKE A RUSSIAN PLANE (PRESUMABLY AEROFLOT) TO CUBA WHERE DERBY SAYS HE WOULD HAVE HAD TO WAIT AN ADDITIONAL WEEK BEFORE MAKING CONNECTIONS TO PARAMARIBO. THE SOVIETS ARE SAID TO HAVE REFUSED TO FINANCE TRAVEL ON ANY OTHER AIRLINE AND IN PARTICULAR TO HAVE REFUSED TO LET DERBY RETURN TO SURINAM VIA AMSTERDAM

OR THE U.S.

3. IN DERBY'S OPINION, THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT LIVED UP TO
THEIR AGREEMENT WITH THE GOS BY NOT MAKING AVAILABLE
FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR THE RETURN TRIPS OF THE SURINAM
REPRESENTATIVES. DERBY HIMSELF RETURNED VIA AMSTERDAY ON
A TICKET PURCHASED APPARENTLY ON CREDIT. THERE IS AS YET
NO WORD ON THE FATE OF THE OTHER SURINAM DELEGATE, JHAWNIE.
ZURHELLEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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